



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Elizabeth A. Dudek  
Typed or Printed Name of Person Sending Paper or Fee  
*Elizabeth A. Dudek*  
Signature  
December 7, 2005  
Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of )  
Hiroaki S. Hara, et al. ) Examiner: Unknown  
on METHOD OF PREPARING ) Art Unit: 1746  
MEMBRANE ELECTRODE )  
ASSEMBLIES WITH AEROGEL )  
SUPPORTED CATALYST ) Confirmation No. 1415  
Serial No.: 10/800,993 )  
Filed: March 15, 2004 ) (Our Docket No. 6872-0005)

Hartford, Connecticut, December 7, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

Applicant(s) submits herewith Form PTO/SB/08A/B identifying patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Under 37 CFR 1.97 (b)

☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application, or the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

Under 37 CFR 1.97 (c)

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application, or the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application, or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurred last, but *before* the mailing date of either a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

☐ A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below.

☐ Fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (\$180.00).

Under 37 CFR 1.97(d)

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first, but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee. Applicant hereby petitions for the consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, 37 CFR 1.97(d)(ii). A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below.

☐ Fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i) (\$180.00)

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**CERTIFICATION (37 CFR 1.97(e))**

☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. A copy of the relevant search report is enclosed herewith.

☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

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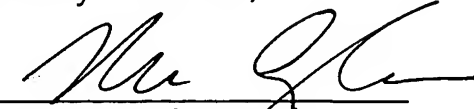
Under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i)

☒ Copies of the U.S. patents identified on the attached PTO/SB/08A form are not being submitted at this time. Should the Examiner require said U.S. patent copies, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner contact Applicant(s) Representative at the number listed below.

Applicants respectfully request that any deficiencies in the fees be charged to Deposit Order Account No. 13-0235.

Respectfully submitted,

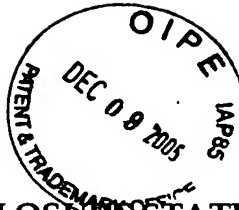
By



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*Attachment PTO-1449*

Sheet 1 of 1



FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S)

Docket No.: 6872-0005

U.S. Serial No.: 10/800,993

Applicant: Hiroaki Hara, et al.

U.S. Filing Date: March 15, 2004

Title: METHOD OF PREPARING

Group Art Unit: 1746

MEMBRANE ELECTRODE ASSEMBLIES WITH

AEROGEL SUPPORTED CATALYST

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner's Initials</u>	<u>Patent Number</u>	<u>Patent Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class Subclass</u>
_____	4,287,232	09/01/1981	Goller et al.	427/113
_____	5,601,938	02/11/1997	Mayer et al.	429/40
_____	5,732,463	03/31/1998	Breault et al.	29/825
_____	6,524,736 B1	02/25/2003	Sompalli et al.	429/42

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner's Initials</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Translation Yes No</u>
_____				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Examiner's  
Initials

\_\_\_\_\_ Copy of International Search Report for Serial No. PCT/US05/07948  
dated November 10, 2005.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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EXAMINER:

Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).